

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amend the paragraph found on page 4, lines 1-7 as follows:

Thus Coordinator, implemented with Oval allows users to define and maintain structured styles of online interaction. Users are still unable to handle interactions where messages are posted to a group of recipients, all of whom are not known a priori (e.g., as is the case in a brainstorming session where the participants include any and all contributing online users). Coordinator/Oval also does not provide a dynamic, graphical representation giving users ~~with~~ an overview and interface to a given meeting. In addition, no method or interface is provided allowing users to replay all or a section of a given meeting.

Amend the paragraph found on page 7, lines 14-20 as follows:

A detailed example of the preferred embodiment[[,]] is given, describing how the current invention is used in the process of supporting a design meeting. An example of this is depicted in Figure 1. The user interface 1000 consists of two interrelated parts: A phased social proxy 1010 that explicitly depicts the presence and activities of the participants in each phase of the meeting; and a phased conversation representation 1015 that depicts the topics of the meeting's phases, the dialog of the current phase, and artifacts (e.g. Documents and drawings) related to or produced during the meeting.

Amend the paragraph found on page 9, lines 4-13 as follows:

Note that since the phased social proxy 1010 is public and, hence, seen equally by all participants, if a given user does move to a phase other than the current one, their movement will be visible to the entire group. This explicit indication provides a powerful "social affordance," one that can press users to restrict their activities to the current phase so that their actions conform to that of the group. Alternatively, suppose a user does turn their attention to a previous phase, causing their dot 1135 to move to a noncurrent phase-shape 1050. Other participants seeing this might begin ~~being~~ to wonder why someone is still looking at this phase. Perhaps there remain ~~unresolved~~ ~~remains-resolved~~ issues related to this phase. Perhaps the participant represented by dot 1135 came to the meeting late, and is reviewing the previous phase to catch up to the other participants.

Amend the paragraph found on page 11, lines 3-10 as follows:

A final feature of the conversation representation is that participants may attach annotations (similar to 'sticky notes') to a noncurrent conversation phase. These allow participants to add information, even though the primary content of a phase is frozen, or may not yet be created. ~~These~~ The presence of such annotations is indicated by the thickening of relevant phase-shape's line width. Note the difference in the width of 1050 versus 1060 - 1090. One will appreciate that other graphic representations of the presence of such annotations exist including, but not limited to changing the color or line type of the relevant phase-shape.

Amend the paragraph found on page 25, lines 17-20 as follows:

A new template is stored in the database, using the given name, the content of the template, being that of the current meeting's agenda (i.e., specification of the phases, their types and the interrelationship between them₁).